

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PHNOM 02564 110516Z

17

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 103083

O 110445Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9290

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE  
COMUSSAG NAKHOM PHANUM THAI IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 2564

EXDIS

DEPT ALSO PASS IMMEDIATE INFO CJCS WASHDC; SECDEF WASHDC; NSC THE  
WHITE HOUSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, MASS, MMOL, CB, US

SUBJECT: AMMUNITION RESUPPLY PROBLEM GROWING MORE CRITICAL DAILY

REF: JCS 110037Z FEB 75

1. WE CURRENTLY HAVE IN PHNOM PENH APPROXIMATELY A 13-DAY  
SUPPLY OF AMMUNITION FOR FANK AT THE MINIMUM RATE OF  
CONSUMPTION POSSIBLE UNDER PRESENT COMBAT CONDITIONS.

2. DESPITE THE BIRD AIR RESUPPLY EFFORT, CURRENTLY RUNNING  
AT THE MAXIMUM POSSIBLE RATE OF NINE AIRLAND AMMO RESUPPLY  
SORTIES PER DAY, BY 16 FEBRUARY WE WILL BE REDUCED TO THE  
FOLLOWING LEVELS OF CRITICAL TYPES OF AMMUNITION:

LR	PSS	G	DAYS OF SUPPLY
105MM HOWITZER	105MM HOWITZER	6	
MORTAR	MORTAR	8	
SMALL ARMS	SMALL ARMS	12	
ANTI-PERSONNEL BOMBS	ANTI-PERSONNEL BOMBS	0	

3. IT IS EVIDENT FROM THE ABOVE THAT ONE WEEK FROM TODAY  
WE WILL HAVE FALLEN TO SUCH A CRITICALLY LOW LEVEL OF  
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AMMUNITION SUPPLY THAT THE FANK WILL LIKELY COLLAPSE.

IT WILL BE AT LEAST A WEEK BEFORE THE BIRD AIR EFFORT  
CAN BE DOUBLED TO UP TO 20 SORTIES PER DAY. THE EARLIEST  
POSSIBLE DATE FOR THE NEXT MEKONG RIVER CONVOY IS  
FEB. 18, A WEEK FROM TODAY, AND AS EVERYONE IS AWARE,  
ITS CHANCES OF REACHING PHNOM PENH ARE PROBLEMATICAL.  
EVEN IF IT MAKES IT HERE, IT WILL BRING US ONLY FOUR  
DAYS' SUPPLY OF AMMUNITION.

4. ALL OF THE ABOVE FACTS ADD UP TO ONE CONCLUSION,  
WHICH IS THAT A TEMPORARY EMERGENCY AIRLIFT OF AMMUNITION  
BEYOND WHAT CAN BE ACHIEVED BY BIRD AIR IS ESSENTIAL IF  
WE ARE TO KEEP PHNOM PENH FROM FALLING TO THE ENEMY. WE NEED  
UP TO 40 REPEAT 40 AIRLAND SORTIES PER DAY INTO POCHENTONG.  
DEAN

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED CJCS WASHDC AND SECDEF WASHDC.

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AMMUNITION, SUPPLIES, MILITARY AIRLIFTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Film Number:** D750048-1005  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
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**TAGS:** MOPS, MASS, MMOL, CB, US, BIRD AIR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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